

**River Bend Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**March 6, 2024**  
**Municipal Building**  
**6:15 PM**

Members Present: Laurie LaMotte, Amy Hendee, Victoria Stuppy, Anne Craddock, Richard LaMotte

Members Absent: Beth Stokes

Others: Liaison Jeff Weaver, Janet Nawojski, Barbara Maurer, Mary Iorio, Ralph Iorio

Laurie LaMotte called the meeting to order at 6:17 with a quorum present.

Ms. LaMotte motioned to approve the minutes of January 24 and February 7. Richard LaMotte seconded; the motion carried unanimously. She also motioned to amend the agenda to include a discussion of the budget and nomination for Secretary since Kathy Noonan resigned. Richard LaMotte seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. LaMotte motioned to adopt the agenda as amended, Mr. LaMotte seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Ms. LaMotte further motioned to nominate Victoria Stuppy as Secretary. Annie Craddock seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. LaMotte presented a preliminary budget for FY24-25 with the caveat that she sought approval of the overall budget request, not the individual line items as they were place holders that would be discussed at subsequent meetings. She also reviewed FY 23-24 year-to-date expenses and proposed items to round out the current fiscal year. After a brief discussion, Ms. LaMotte motioned to accept the proposed budget as presented, Amy Hendee seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Craddock presented a proposal that seeks Town Council's approval for Parks & Recreation to create an informational social media page. Liaison Jeff Weaver suggested the Town Clerk, Kristie Nobles, not he, should be one of the administrators. Ms. Stuppy suggested re-ordering the presentation to reflect proposal, then supporting documentation. Ms. Craddock asked Board members to proofread carefully and she'd make suggested changes. The Board agreed it was a well-done presentation and a necessary step.

Ms. LaMotte provided Easter Egg Hunt updates and asked Ms. Craddock to reach out to Volunteers as 10 are needed. She assigned age groups as follows: Amy Hendee (0-2); Annie Craddock (3-5); Victoria Stuppy (6-8); Richard LaMotte (9-12). Ms. LaMotte and Beth Stokes will manage basket crafts and bunny pictures in the Municipal Building.

Ms. Hendee updated the Board on the Mother's Day event preparations scheduled for May 4 from 1-4 PM. Participants will be asked to dress up for the tea party, they'll be served multiple teas and Jess Repenning will explain tea blending while everyone is sipping. Ms. Hendee suggested the Board provide tea cakes, sandwiches and flowers to the participants. She will also follow up with new pricing.

Ms. Hendee voiced concern about the proposed International night for April due to scheduling and logistics. Ms. LaMotte proposed tabling International night to a later date, Ms. Hendee seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Hendee alternatively suggested a 'bring your own board game' night for April due to residents' requests and seeming popularity, to which Ms. Craddock suggested a monthly community game night. Ms. Hendee proposed we start with one and gauge interest and suggested a Game Day for April 20, 1-4 PM. Ms. Craddock seconded, Board approved with a dissent from Mr. LaMotte.

Ms. Craddock updated the Board on the proposed Father's Day event and explained the intricacies of the permitting process and liability issues. Due to these concerns, a local brew pub could do the taste testing as they would assume liability, but hiring a business would be more costly. After much discussion, Ms. Craddock and Mr. LaMotte agreed to visit several brew pubs to gather more information and they will present findings at the next meeting.

There being no further business, Ms. LaMotte moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Craddock and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

  
Submitted by Victoria Stuppy